



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

**Substitute Bill No. 5791**

\* \_\_\_\_\_ HB05791GAE \_\_\_\_\_ 041508 \_\_\_\_\_ \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING A SINGLE POINT OF ENTRY FOR LONG-TERM CARE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) The Division of Elderly  
2       Services and the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services shall establish a  
3       state-wide single point of entry system for individuals seeking long-  
4       term care. The goal of the single point of entry system shall be to (1)  
5       permit any individual seeking long-term care services in the state to  
6       obtain the same information on long-term care services from any one  
7       of the entities designated as a single point of entry agency pursuant to  
8       subsection (b) of this section, and (2) promote consumer choice of long-  
9       term care options.

10       (b) The Division of Elderly Services and the Bureau of Rehabilitation  
11       Services, in consultation with the Long-Term Care Advisory Council  
12       and members of the public, shall designate geographical service areas  
13       for the establishment of single point of entry agencies and shall  
14       designate a center for independent living, as defined in section 17b-613  
15       of the general statutes, and an area agency on aging as single point of  
16       entry agencies for each of the geographical service areas.

17       (c) Each center for independent living and area agency on aging  
18       designated a single point of entry agency pursuant to subsection (b) of  
19       this section shall be required to:

20 (1) Work collaboratively with each other to operate the single point  
21 of entry system;

22 (2) Provide to all individuals seeking information on long-term care,  
23 including individuals who pay privately for such care, with  
24 information on all the long-term care options and services available in  
25 the state, including community and home-based care and nursing  
26 home care;

27 (3) Assess an individual's eligibility for long-term care services and  
28 programs in the state, including Medicaid and other public programs  
29 and services offered by private and nonprofit organizations, through a  
30 comprehensive, uniform screening process;

31 (4) Assist individuals in obtaining a timely determination of  
32 eligibility from the Department of Social Services for publicly funded  
33 long-term care services and programs;

34 (5) Assist individuals in developing a long-term care support plan  
35 that is person-centered throughout the planning process; and

36 (6) Implement quality assurance standards and procedures.

37 (d) In addition to the requirements established in subsection (c) of  
38 this section, the directors of the Division of Elderly Services and the  
39 Bureau of Rehabilitation Services may establish additional  
40 requirements, criteria and standards for the operation of agencies  
41 designated as single point of entry agencies. Said directors shall  
42 implement a quality assurance program to measure the performance of  
43 such designated agencies. Any designated entity that fails to meet the  
44 requirements and standards in subsection (c) of this section, any  
45 additional criteria established under this subsection or the  
46 commissioner's quality assurance measures may be subject to  
47 termination as a single point of entry agency.

48 Sec. 2. Section 17b-367 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes  
49 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*

50 1, 2008):

51 The Office of Policy and Management, [within existing budgetary  
 52 resources and] in consultation with the [Select Committee on Aging]  
 53 select committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
 54 matters relating to aging, the Commission on Aging, personnel  
 55 designated by the Commissioner of Social Services who administer the  
 56 CHOICES health insurance assistance program, personnel who  
 57 administer the single point of entry system established in section 1 of  
 58 this act and the Long-Term Care Advisory Council, shall develop and  
 59 maintain a single consumer-oriented Internet [website] web site that  
 60 provides comprehensive information on long-term care options that  
 61 are available in Connecticut and information on the single point of  
 62 entry system established pursuant to section 1 of this act. The [website]  
 63 web site shall also include direct links and referral information  
 64 regarding long-term care resources, including private and nonprofit  
 65 organizations offering advice, counseling and legal services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	17b-367

**HS**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*

**GAE**          *Joint Favorable*